Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 266896 ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY:S/S:PTARNOFF:BABS APPROVED BY:S/S:PTARNOFF

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O 080251Z NOV 77 ZFF4 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

SECRETSTATE 266896

NODIS

CHEROKEE FOR DR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT LAGOS 12887 ACTION SECSTATE DATED NOV 07:

QTE: S E C C F T L GOS 12887

NODIS/CHEROKEE FOR SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: (OVIP, CARTER)

SUBJECT: POSTPONEMENT OF PRESIDENTIAL TRIP

RDF: STATE 265898

1. IN JOE GARBA'S ABSENCE (OUT OF TOWN) I CALLED ON PROTOCOL CHIEF BALEWA TO CONVFY CONTENTS REFTEL. (BALEWA HAS MORE READY ACCESS TO OBASANJO ON MATTERS OF OHIS NATURE ANYWAY.& BEFORE I HAD A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN MY MISSION, BALEWA RELATED THS ANGUISHED PHONE CALL HE HAD RECEIVED FROM OBASANJO WHEN AMBASSADOR MUSA HAD DELIVERED PRESIFENT CARTER'S MESSAGE ON THE POSTPONEMENT OF HIS VISIT. BALEWA HAD GONE TO SEE OBASANJO SECRET

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IMMEDIATELY. OBASANJO REITERATED HIS DEEP DISAPPOINTMENT OVER THE POSTPONEMENT. OBASANJO THEN TOLD BALEWA THAT HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD THE COMPELLING NATURE OF THE REASONS FOR THE POSTPONEMENT BUT FEARED THAT J FRENCH RADIO REPORT (TO THE EFFECT OHAT EUROPEAN PORTIONS OF THF VISIT MIGHT IN FACT NOT BE POSTPONED) WOULD MAKE THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE LAGOS VISIT MUCH MORE DIFFICULT FOR THE NIGERIAN PUBLIC TO UNDERSTAND.

2. IT WAS THUS WITH IMMENSE RELIEF THAT BALEWA RECEIVED REFTEL'S NEWS. HE SAID HE KNEW OBASANJO WOULD BE EXTREMELY GRATIFIED. HE WOULD CONTACT HIM IMMEDIATELY AND LET ME KNOW. HE THOUGHT THE PROPOSED DATES WOULD WORK ALTHOUGH OF COURSE IT WOULD BE UP TO THB HEAD OF STATE TO MAKE THE DECISION. HE FELT OBLIGED TO TELL ME, HOWEVER, THAT "IT WOULD MJKS IT MUCH EASIER FOR US IF THE PRESIDENT COULD STAY W LITTLE BIT LONGER - WE REALLY MUST TAKE HIM TO THE NORTH." EASUM UNQTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PRESIDENT, CAT-C, CHEROKEE 11-7-77, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 08-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: S/S:PTARNOFF:BABS

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

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Subject: POSTPONEMENT OF PRESIDENTIAL TRIP RDF: STATE 265898 TAGS: OVIP, OTRA, US, NI, (CARTER, JIMMY)
To: WHITE HOUSE

Type: TE

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